THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

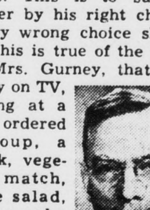
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Scripture: Matthew 6:19-34; Galatians 5:16-23; Philippians 1:9-11; 4:8; I Thessalonians 5:21-22.
Devotional Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20.

Choosing the Best

Lesson for August 8, 1954

A MAN grows by the choices he makes. This is to say, he grows taller by his right choices, while every wrong choice shrinks his soul. This is true of the physical life. Mrs. Gurney, that well-known lady on TV, one evening at a restaurant ordered cream soup, a large steak, vegetables to match, a sizeable salad, chocolate cake with ice cream on top, — and a slice of melba toast. "I am trying to reduce," she said. The audience laughed, as well they might. Mrs. Gurney will never get thin if the melba toast she eats tops off meals like that one. A woman who can't choose to say NO! to what she knows will make her fat, will always be the wrong size. A boy in school who can't make up his mind to go out for active sports will probably turn to be undersized compared to what he might have been. Our choices make us, or break us.



Dr. Foreman

God's Scale and Ours

It is not only our health and physique, it is our minds and souls too, that grow by right choices, shrink by poor ones. Everybody, whether he has thought about it or not, has a "scale of values." That is, there are some things he prizes more than anything, others for which he has little use. One man will spend his last cent for a rare stamp, another man will give his last cent to missions, a third will leave his last cent at the race track. The writer's grandfather was known to have gone without meals more than once in order to buy certain books. Tell me what you prize most highly and I will tell you what sort of person you are. But what the Christian wants to know is: How does God look at it? A jeweler will not buy gems without first having them appraised by an expert he can trust. Life spreads many a bright sparkling jewel before our eyes; how can we tell the true from the false? How can we tell how to value life unless God appraises it for us? So when Saint Paul, or our Lord himself, tells us what the true values in life are, we are only hurting ourselves if we pay no attention.

All Values Are Real

Jesus' words sharply provoke thought, and he meant it that way. He clearly taught that things do not matter in comparison with greater values such as peace of mind and health of soul. But some people, reading the Sermon on the Mount, have jumped to the conclusion that he meant for Christians to pay no attention at all to food and drink and clothing, that if a Christian concentrates on the kingdom of God he need not give ordinary things a thought. Jesus certainly did not mean to be taken that way. He himself would ask for water when he was thirsty. He was not indifferent to meals; indeed his enemies accused him of eating too much. He did not build up a large wardrobe; but he wore clothes, and sometimes good ones. It is only a poor translation of Jesus' words that makes him say "Take no thought" for food or clothing or for tomorrow. What he said was "Do not be anxious, do not worry" about such things. What he means is clear: Christians should put their greatest energies of thought, interest, planning and action, into the greatest things.

Don't You Want the Best?

"Bad means: choosing a lower value in the presence of a higher." So a modern philosopher (Urban) has said. The tragedy of life is not that men choose cheap things. The tragedy is that they choose cheap things when they might have had better. It is no tragedy to have a high school diploma—on the contrary it is a good thing. But it is a tragedy to have only a high school diploma if you might just as well have gone on to college. It is no tragedy to be a worker on a farm; it is too bad if the tenant might have owned the farm by harder work and better management. It is no tragedy to be a clerk; one can serve God anywhere. But it is a pity before God if a man is content to live and work in some easy corner when he might have gone into God's great service as a minister or a missionary. God's question to every man is not: Did you choose the good? but, Did you choose the best?

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Chapman Praised for His Music in 'The Common Glory'

Williamsburg, Va.- Harold Chapman, an air force sergeant in World War II who began the serious study of music only after he had completed university graduate work looking toward an academic career, is drawing warm praise for the new and colorful music score he has written for this year's presentation of the long-running Paul Green drama, "The Comonm Glory."

But Chapman's sudden branching-out into music was no late-in-life decision. He was graduated from college with a Bachelor of Arts degree at the age of 17, and he took his Master of Arts degree at Vanderbilt University at 19. He had, he admits, time to change his mind.

The new score for "The Common Glory" was made necessary by the addition this year for the first time of a "little symphony" orchestra supplementing the drama's famed a cappella choir. Critics have been unanimous in their praise of the additional music. They have said it "adds more versatility, beauty and color to an already colorful performance," and that it is "excellent and completely in the spirit of the play .. its use (is) judicious and effective."

Strangely enough, Chapman's success with "The Common Glory" comes despite his working in what is for him an unusual medium. A modernist to the core, he has for the most part written here in the traditional, eighteenth century idiom. However, the flexibility of the drama with its reliance on modern dance has given him a wider range within which to work.

His orchestrations of eighteenth century music, much of it of obscure derivation, comprise approximately half the score. The remainder, including the first and second act overtures and much of the dance music, is the original composition of Chapman.

The composer, who with his wife a professional violinist, teaches music at Hampton, Va., is a native of Arkansas, from where his family moved, a few months after his birth, to Kansas City, Mo. He entered William Jewell College and received his A. B. degree at 17. A history major, he continued his studies at Vanderbilt University, and won his master's degree when he was 19 years old.

Prior to this time, he had studied piano informally and for his own amusement. But now, despite his being armed with his two degrees and ready to begin an academic career, the compulsion to pursue music seriously became overwhelming. He entered Union Conservatory at Boston in 1930 and won a solo certificate in piano.

Sentimentality is no indication of a warm heart. Nothing weeps more copiously than a chunk of ice.
-American Lutheran.

Subscription rate: $2.00 a year payable in advance.

Hixburg

Hixburg, August 2.- The Rev. J. H. Anderson attended the annual meeting of the Minister's Conference at the Union Theological Seminary in New York week before last. Mrs. Anderson and little Larry went with him. They visited Mr. Anderson's brother, who teaches at Columbia University.

Dr. Twyman Williams will not fill his regular appointment at the Hixburg Presbyterian Church next Sunday evening, as he will begin a series of meetings at New Store Church that night.

Mesdames Charles Williams and Mc Coleman are spending a few days this week at Virginia Beach.

Mesdames Edwin Fore and Rob Martin attended the home demonstration meetings at Blacksburg last week.

Mr. Sears Hix, of Thomasville, N. C., is spending several days this week at the home of Mr. Willie D. Hix, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harwood, of New Jersey are visiting this week in the home of his brother, Mr. Ernest Harwood.

Mrs. Ed McPhillips sprained her ankle and will have to remain in for two weeks, by the order of her doctor.

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[Pam]plin Rt. 1

[illegible], R. F. D. 1, August 2.- [illegible] Meadows has returned [after] a few days visit in Illinois, with her daughter [and s]on-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] Peterson. The Petersons [ann]ounced the birth of a new [illegible]. [Mrs.] Peterson is the former [illegible Me]adows, of this community.

[Mr. a]nd Mrs. John Edwards and [illegible] spent the week-end with Mr. [and Mrs.] Joe Meadows. Visiting in [the] home Sunday were Mr. [and Mrs.] Jack Williams and Diane, [of Appom]attox.

[Mrs.] Annie Meadows, Mr. and [Mrs. W]alter Clifton and children [and J]im Baker and family, of [illegible], Saturday night.

[Mr. a]nd Mrs. Ralph Arrington [have] recently spent the week-[end in] West Va. with Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] Arrington.

[Mr. a]nd Mrs. Thomas Ranson [are] proud parents of a baby [illegible], born August 2 at the [illegible] Baptist Hospital, named [illegible] Carol.

[illegible] is the swiftist moving [illegible]

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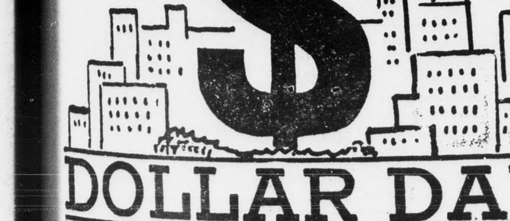

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USE OF ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDS STUDIED BY EXTENSION SERVICE

Strengthening of county programs will be the chief aim when the $205,-638 in additional Federal funds allotted the VPI Agricultural Extension Service is parceled out.

W. H. Daughtrey, associate director of the Extension Service, says the administration, including the district agents in the five supervisory districts of Virginia, is now making detailed plans as to how best to use the additional money.

At least 85% of the money will be used to boost agriculture in the field, mainly from the standpoint of additional personnel. More intensive "on the farm" assistance is the ultimate aim, Daughtrey said.

Present plans are to select pilot counties to do intensive work on farm and home development. In other counties, the work will probably be done on a county-wide basis, working with a given number of farms and homes selected throughout the county. To make this work possible, the Extension Service proposes to place 25 assistant agents (18 assistant agricultural agents and 7 assistant home agents) in the pilot counties. The counties are now being chosen.

In addition, plans are to round out the county units by placing home demonstration agents in the counties which do not now have them. These counties are Craig, Gloucester, King George, Lee, Mathews, Middlesex, Northumberland and Wise.

The five supervisory districts now have an average of 20 counties each. Daughtrey says with the increasing work load and the increasing responsibilities of the district supervisors, the areas are too large for effective supervision. So he proposes to create another district, and employ another man and another woman supervisor.

Also in the field, plans are to add one Negro farm agent and one Negro home agent. They will go to areas of very heavy Negro population where additional assistance for the Negros has been requested.

On the resident state staff at VPI, the employment of four more subject-matter specialists is being considered—one in farm management, two in management phases of home economics, and one in farm machinery.

The intensified program proposed under these additional funds will make necessary "the very best people with the very best training," Daughtrey says. He feels that locating suitable personnel will be the major factor in any delay in getting the program into full swing. He stresses, however, that there will be no let-down in standards simply to fill the new positions.

The situation in a nut-sheel is this: The funds are available now, applicants are being interviewed, and the program will go into effect as soon as possible.

House Plants

Looking ahead to next winter when you will want potted plants in the house? Cuttings of such soft wood plants as geranium, coleus, and begonia can be rooted in late summer. Use a sand box and keep it moist but not soaked. Transplant after the roots form, in about six weeks.

Evergreen

Evergreen, August 3.- Quite a number from here attended the B. T. U. group meeting of Group IV at Calvary Church Friday night.

Reginald Davis, of Farmville, is visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Wooldridge.

Friends and neighbors are sorry to hear of the illness of B. F. Inge at Roanoke Hospital.

Jay Stewart, of Blacksburg, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Stewart.

Mrs. G. W. Glover was taken to Memorial Hospital last week for an operation. She has returned home much improved.

Misses Phyllis and Wanda Kay LeGrande are spending this week at Richmond visiting relatives.

Mrs. O. C. Paulette's children gave a picnic in honor of her birthday Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Grishaw and daughter, Brenda, and Mrs. S. R. Paulette were visiting the sick at the hospital and were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Garrett, in Lynchburg Sunday.

Those leaving Thursday for Ridgecrest, N. C. are Mrs. Ryland Staples, Mrs. Vance Harvey, Mrs. R. H. Wooldridge, Mrs. J. E. Wooldridge and daughter, Rosa Mae and Miss Annie Davidson and Mrs. D. L. Bailey.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hodge and daughter are spending this week with her father at Prospect.

The quarterly meeting of the W. M. U. was held at the Baptist Church here Monday, with a good attendance. Lunch was served.

Guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Warriner over the week-end were Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Tolley, of Amherst; Mrs. C. M. Evans, of Spout Spring, and Mrs. W. F. Ranson, of Pamplin.

Mrs. H. A. Snowden, of Port Royal, Va. is visiting Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Bruce.

CHEMICALS AND MACHINES NEED CAREFUL HANDLING

Chemicals and power-driven machines in the modern garden can spell danger.

The Virginia Rural Safety Council says that gardening and other work on the home grounds at this season often calls out the whole family. If your family gardens, and especially if you are an inexperienced gardener in using new chemicals and power-driven machines, be alert against accidents.

For safety with pesticides, read all the print on the container to know how to use the dust or spray safely as well as effectively. Label poisons conspicuously. Keep them out of reach of children and pets. Sprayers and dsuters used to apply these chemicals should also be put out of reach of youngsters promptly after use. Wash out any container used to mix insecticides, and dispose of the "washings" or any "leftovers" at once.

A still day is the safest and most effective time to dust or spray. If there is a breeze, stand with your back to it so the spray or dust blows away from you. Avoid breathing in insecticides. If you happen to get any on the skin ,wash thoroughly.

Safety measures with power-lawn mowers or garden tractors may seem obvious, but they account for an increasing number of accidents each year as more people use them. Children often are chief sufferers. either because they want to try out the machines or get in the way. Many rotary-type mowers now have guards to protect them against flying objects, if the fast-whirling blades hit a stone, for example. But all power machines need to be used carefully.

Other familiar accident hazards are worth noting. If garden tools are put away promptly after use, no one will fall over an upturned rake. Some smart gardeners paint tool handles bright red for convenience and safety. Garden stakes should be made conspicuous to save accidents.

Thinking ahead for safety is good insurance for the whole family.

Phone 2811 with Personals.

POISON IVY, HONEYSUCKLE CAN BE CONTROLLED

Poison ivy and honeysuckle, which are rapidly spreading in many orchards in Virginia, can be controlled.

W. E. Chappell, plant physiologist at VPI, points out that unless the pests are controlled they interfere with harvesting and increase costs of mowing and other operations. Furthermore, it is often hard to get pickers to work in orchards infested with poison ivy.

Experiments in Virginia the past three years have shown that both poison ivy and honeysuckle can be killed without injury to the apple trees or fruit by the proper use of a mixture of 2,4-D and 2,4,5-H. This material should be mixed with water and sprayed on the leaves of the ivy and honeysuckle in July.

The mixture is usually sold as brush killer under various trade names. Only those with low-volitile ingredients should be used in apple orchards. Fumes or vapors from those that are not low-volitile may cause severe injury to trees or fruits, even though none of the spray actually gets on the tree. Most of the mixtures contain four pounds of active ingredients per gallon of concentrate. Use one pint of this concentrate in 50 gallons of water.

Low pressure (30 pounds) sprayers are best. Do not use regular orchard sprayers. Keep spray off all parts of the trees. Use smal hand booms and direct spray downward at all times. Chappell suggests that a small area of the orchard be sprayed the first year unless the user is thoroughly familiar with weed spraying.

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